

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 06669 121217Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----097391 121219Z /14
O 121210Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7580

S E C R E T BONN 06669

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, MILI, GW, OVIP (BROWN, HAROLD)
SUBJECT: SECRETARY BROWN'S MEETING WITH THE CHANCELLOR

REF: STATE 93303

1. ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 12, WE PUT THE SUGGESTION
IN REFTEL TO DR. KLIESOW OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY.
AFTER SPEAKING PERSONALLY WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, DR.
KLIESOW INFORMED US THAT THE CHANCELLOR HAD REITERATED
HIS WISH THAT THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE DIS-
CUSSION BE SEVERELY LIMITED. IN FACT, THE CHANCELLOR
HAD EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT IT MIGHT BE ADVISABLE FOR
AT LEAST PART OF THE DISCUSSION TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN
HIM AND SECRETARY BROWN WITH NO ONE ELSE PRESENT.

2. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, DR. KLIESOW REQUESTED THAT,
FROM THE US SIDE, ONLY SECRETARY BROWN AND THE AMBASSA-
DOR COME TO THE MEETING WITH THE CHANCELLOR. KLIESOW
SAID HE ASSUMED THAT MINISTER APEL AND AMBASSADOR
STOESSEL WOULD BE PRESENT FOR PART OF THE MEETING.
HOWEVER, THE CHANCELLOR WOULD PROBABLY WISH, AT SOME
POINT, TO SPEAK WITH SECRETARY BROWN ALONE. KLIESOW

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SAID THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE PLAYED BY EAR ON THE SPOT.

3. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE AND REGRET THE INCONVENIENCE
THAT THE CHANCELLOR'S POSITION MAY REPRESENT FOR THE
SECRETARY AND MR. MCGIFFERT, WE BELIEVE ON BALANCE
THAT THE CHANCELLOR'S WISH TO WANT HIS MEETING WITH
THE SECRETARY AS PRIVATE AS POSSIBLE IS TO OUR OVERALL

ADVANTAGE. IT REFLECTS THE CHANCELLOR'S DESIRE TO HAVE
A SEARCHING EXCHANGE ON STRATEGIC QUESTIONS OF CENTRAL
IMPORTANCE TO OURSELVES AND THE FRG. WE BELIEVE IT
REPRESENTS, FROM THE SECRETARY'S STANDPOINT, A SUPERB
OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE THE CHANCELLOR'S ATTITUDE BY
GIVING HIM A SENIOR EXPOSITION OF OUR CURRENT STRATEGIC
THINKING.
STOESSEL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN06669
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780157-0320
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780463/aaaacbqv.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3b083ab1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 STATE 93303
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2988346
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY BROWN'S MEETING WITH THE CHANCELLOR
TAGS: MPOL, MILI, OVIP, GE, US, (BROWN, HAROLD), (SCHMIDT, HELMUT)
To: OSLO STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3b083ab1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014